

AND SAN FRANCISCO!  
TIONS IN LOS ANGELES  
Over the Top with the Western  
Worker Sustaining Fund Drive?  
ATTEND THE CELEBRA-

# Western Worker

WESTERN ORGAN OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY, U.S.A.  
(Section of the Communist International)

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
MARCH 30 1936  
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SAN FRANCISCO, MONDAY, MARCH 30, 1936

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# 4000 THROWN OFF LOS ANGELES RELIEF LISTS

## Employers, Police Plot Anti-Labor Drive

### Will Seek To Frame California Communists Under C. S. Act

#### Financial Backing Is Promised By S. F. Employers

FRESNO, Calif., March 26.—The basis of a sinister plot to frame leaders of the Communist Party in California as the opening gun in an attack upon the labor movement and civil liberties of the people of this state, it is reported, was laid at a secret conference held in a swanky Fresno hotel recently.

Participating in the conference were police, local public officials and spies in the employ of powerful San Francisco financial interests.

Plans discussed, and revealed through authentic sources, included indictment of California Communist leaders on charges of conspiracy to violate the Criminal Syndicalist Act. Groundwork for the frame-up will be a widespread anti-Red campaign of the Hearst type, seeking to show the Communist Party is a secret underground organization of conspirators.

#### STOOL PIGEONS

Active in preparing the frame-up are Stanley Morton Doyle (alias Pat Morton) labor spy now working in San Francisco; Colonel Henry Sanborn, editor of the fascist "American Citizen" and chief rival of Doyle in stool-pigeoning; and William Young of the Young Investigating Service, an agency of stool-pigeons.

The rivalry between Doyle and Sanborn has led to the information of this plot leaking out.

The Criminal Syndicalism Law in its most recent application, was used by powerful financial agencies to railroad eight aeronautical union leaders to jail on identical charges of "conspiracy to violate" terms of the measure. This frame-up has roused a mighty protest from liberal and progressive organizations and individuals, not only in this state, but throughout the country.

A telegram sent by the editor of the WESTERN WORKER to the Fresno County District Attorney demanding a statement regarding reports of the plot to date has brought no answer.

#### FASCIST PLOT

The fascist character of the frame-up plot can be seen in the fact that the Communist Party is an open, legal party in this state and throughout the United States. It is on the California ballot and participates in presidential, state, congressional and local elections. Anita Whitney, Communist candidate for state office in the 1934 elections, polled in excess of 200,000 votes.

Necessary part of any employer-vigilante drive against the militant labor movement, for the open shop and company unions, is a violent attack upon the Communist Party.

#### MUST PROTEST

All labor, progressive and liberal forces throughout the state should be alive to the danger of this plot, and organize the greatest possible mass pressure and protest, addressed to the District Attorney of Fresno County.

The threatened attack comes at a time when a state-wide campaign against the infamous Criminal Syndicalism Act is under way. A state conference for the repeal of the measure will be held in Sacramento on Sunday, April 19, initiated jointly by the California Conference for the repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism Act, and the Southern California Councils for Constitutional Rights.

#### Telegram To Fresno District Attorney

March 25, 1936

District Attorney  
Fresno, Calif.

Official press release by Communist Party charges secret conference held recently in Fresno discussed plans to arrest and indict leaders of Communist Party in California on charges of conspiracy to violate Criminal Syndicalist Law stop Reports indicate plans backed by financial and industrial interests stop before publishing same we request statement from you affirming or denying knowledge of correctness of these reports stop awaiting your reply to include in press release to press of entire country.

Harry Carlisle  
Editor Western Worker

### NATION-WIDE DEMAND PRESSED FOR FREEDOM OF C. S. VICTIMS

#### C. S. Chairman



#### Just One Month Left To Pass Freedom Resolutions

RICHMOND, Calif., March 27.—The Central Labor Council here has endorsed the California Conference for Repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism Act and will send two delegates to the state-wide conference in Sacramento on April 19th. Brother McClung who was sent by the council two weeks ago to attend a meeting of the Oakland branch of the repeal conference, brought back an enthusiastic report. Endorsement and election of delegates followed his report.

RODEO, Calif., March 27.—The Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers' Union, Local No. 51, of Selby has endorsed the C.S. repeal conference and elected two delegates to the Sacramento meeting.

BAKERSFIELD, Calif., March 27.—Lorene Norman, the C.S. prisoner who is now out on bail owing to the birth of a child, will be one of the principal speakers at mass meeting in the City Hall Park on Monday, March 30th at 8 p.m.

The meeting is under the auspices of the Southern California Councils for Constitutional Rights. It is called to further the struggle for repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism Law and freedom of the eight C.S. prisoners.

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif., March 27.—At its regular Open Forum on Sunday evening, March 29, the San Francisco Council of the Democratic Party will present William P. Sanders, chairman of the Conference for Repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism Act. The forums are held at 68 Haight street.

Mr. Sanders will speak on the efforts being made by liberals and progressives throughout California to have this act repealed as unconstitutional legislation. The meetings of the Open Forum are free to the public.

NEW YORK, March 27.—The International Labor Defense is conducting a campaign on a nation-wide scale to secure resolutions demanding freedom of the eight California C.S. prisoners. Among the organizations outside of California which have already passed resolutions are: Tailors' Local No. 3, Denver, Colorado.

Bakery and Confectionary Workers' Local No. 2, Chicago. (Continued on Page 2, Col. 7.)

### DEATH PACTS NOW REPLACE PEACE PACTS

ITALY STOCKS LANDSLIDE AND DUKE THUNDERS FOR CONFLICT

#### League Crawfishing

ONE-WAY VOTE SCHEDULED BY HITLER IN NAZI BLOOD BALLOT

European capitalist nations are marching deliberately to war in step to the martial music of peace conversations.

A summary of events since our last issue discloses:

The Italian stock market has crashed as a direct result of the expensive and unproductive invasion of Ethiopia.

Italian fascism has voiced a challenge to Great Britain's power in the Mediterranean, proclaiming that her superior air forces give her dominance over Britain's sea power.

JAPAN PROVOKING Japanese forces have invaded the Siberian border in a series of provocative raids, more deliberate and vindictive than anything previous.

Germany's rejection of all proposals concerning the Rhineland episode has left the League of Nations, in the language of capitalist papers, "without a ray of light." Negotiations have reached a virtual standstill. Germany continues to pour tanks into the "neutral" area and smugly ask "What are you going to do about it?"

FOR SANCTIONS

The Soviet Union and France (Continued on Page 2, Col. 3)

Western Worker Affairs in L. A., S. F. This Week

#### OVER THE TOP!

San Francisco will celebrate completion of the drive for a \$7,500 sustaining fund for 1936 with a Victory Banquet Sunday, 7 p.m., March 29th at 121 Haight street. There will be entertainment, speaking, chicken dinner and a general good time. Price, 50c.

Los Angeles ill celebrate on Saturday, March 28, 8 p.m. at the Mason Opera House, 127 South Broadway, with a Western Worker Concert—which is an annual affair, the fourth since this paper was founded.

Prominent artists, among them Uzia Bermani, pianist R. Menlevitch, violinist of the San Francisco Symphony Orchestra, I. Markoff, cellist, and the Freiheit Mandolin Orchestra, will entertain. Admission is 25c.

These gala entertainments will not give those who attend a chance to enjoy themselves, but proceeds are expected to bring in enough to finally complete the quotas for these two sections.

#### RESERVE THIS DATE

NOTICE: To all Bay Area Cities, San Francisco, East Bay, Contra Costa, Sonoma, San Mateo, San Jose, Monterey! Reserve May 10th as a day of Recreation and Enjoyment. On May 10th the Annual Picnic will take place at Varsity Park, Picnic Playgrounds, 3 miles West of Stanford on Portola Road. Enjoy beautiful sunshine, dancing in the open air to good music, all kinds of amusements, tasteful food, including barbecued meats. RESERVE THIS DATE!

FOR SANCTIONS

Committee (Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)

### RYAN ATTACKS GULF; YANKS 2 ILA CHARTERS

ACTION IS REGARDED AS OPENING OF DRIVE ON PROGRESSIVES

#### Trial Is a Farce

LONGSHOREMEN PENALIZED FOR SUPPORTING SEAMEN

NEW ORLEANS, March 23—Joseph P. Ryan, International President of the International Longshoremen's Association, revoked the charters of Locals 1226 and 231 in what is regarded here as the opening of a campaign against all opponents of his dictatorial policies. Basis for the action was the charge that the locals had violated the "no stoppage of work" clauses in their contract with the ship-owners.

The trial was held in Gulfport, Miss., at which neither T. J. Darcy, president of Local 126 nor J. B. Spencer, president of Local 231, were present. The trial committee first tried to hold sessions in a bed-room in New Orleans at which a noted strike-breaker, Sylvester Pete, was present. When Darcy and Charles Stein, Vice President of Local 1226 objected, the committee agreed to hold the trial in the Central Trades and Labor Council hall. Although the defendants and witnesses were at the Labor Temple at the appointed time, the trial committee left before the trial was to begin. Darcy was notified by telephone soon after they had left that the trial (Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)

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# EMPLOYERS LAY COAST-WIDE PLANS FOR DRIVE AGAINST LABOR

## CONFERENCE CONSIDERS MEANS TO IMPOSE COMPANY UNIONS ON WORKERS IN WEST

SEATTLE, Wash., March 25—Further intensification of the drive against bona fide labor unions and the establishment of widespread company unionism was hinted in the announcement of policy adopted by prominent industrial and agricultural employers who adjourned their second meeting here yesterday.

The employers will seek "closer cooperation between employees and employers to combat the subversive influences that would destroy them."

Attendance at the conference was by special invitation only. The first meeting was held in Del Monte, Calif., early in February.

### RED-BAITING

The employers seek a united front of their kind. They plan a campaign of "Education . . . to defeat false propaganda and false theories." Curiously enough, while seeking to cut employees' wages to the bone they publicly announce their desire to maintain "the American standard of living."

Robert B. Henderson, president of the Pacific Portland Cement Company, San Francisco, is general chairman of the employer organization.

Announcement of the "educational campaign against subversive influences" coincides with similar plans laid down at a recent secret meeting of labor spies, police and officials at Fresno, Calif., the details of which are to be found in another column of this issue of the WESTERN WORKER.

### SEEK ANTI-LABOR LAWS

LOS ANGELES, March 25—Loudly beating the drums for fascist mobilization, Leroy D. Owen, national chairman of the so-called Americanization Committee of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, called for new anti-labor laws here yesterday in addressing 200 members of the manufacturing and industrial committee of the local Chamber of Commerce.

Claiming that one out of every six persons on relief rolls in Los Angeles are aliens, Owen declared it "deplorable that Federal relief agencies make no distinction between aliens and citizens in affording direct or work relief."

Owen further stated: "We need stringent naturalization laws to deal with aliens within our midst—aliens who form the backbone of the Communist Party."

J. A. Pettis, who assertedly wrote the California Criminal Syndicalism Law, alarmed himself and his audience by declaring that a "formidable attempt to repeal the law will be made at the next session of the Legislature."

### DEFENDS TRANSIENT BAN

LOS ANGELES, March 24—Determined to be No. 1 Fascist in California, Police Chief "Hitler" Davis called for "economic sanctions on Communists and their allies by all members of business and industry," in one of his speeches to the "Electric Club" here yesterday in this luxurious Biltmore Hotel.

"I have a list of 150 names of prominent Southern California intellectuals who are fighting for the repeal of the California Syndicalism Law under which many Communistic agitators are being penalized," ranted Davis.

"These names should be boycotted by business and industry as allies of Communists."

## Can You Register For Sponsorship of Party Candidates?

### THESE IN POSITION TO SO DECLARE SYMPATHY SHOULD DO SO

SAN FRANCISCO, March 27—While the Communist Party is working toward the formation of a Farmer-Labor Party on a local, state-wide and national scale, or toward a united labor ticket in the various congressional and assembly districts, the Party will put forward a Communist slate in the coming state and congressional elections.

In order to vote in the August elections, one must be registered before July 16. Registration for the presidential primaries in May closed Thursday, March 26. All who are not yet registered should do so now—before July 16. Those who have registered "Decline to State" or for any other party, may change this by re-registering "Communist" after the May 5 primaries.

## RYAN YANKS 2 ILA CHARTERS

(Continued from Page 1)

### RAILROADED

On March 14 the defendants were to appear in Gulfport to stand trial March 16. Although the accused officials protested the trial being held outside the state and stated that they would not have sufficient time to prepare their case, the "trial" proceeded in their absence.

The first of the two charges of "no stoppage of work" was in the case of the crew's strike on the Point Reyes. Officials of the locals stated that the longshoremen were ordered to handle the lines on the Point Reyes. This is seamen's work and had they obeyed this order they would have been scabbing on the seamen. The other charge grew out of an incident that occurred when a Luckenbach vessel was docked next to a ship where an encounter took place between a scab and a union man. Longshoremen ran off the Luckenbach ship to see what had happened and resumed work half an hour later. It is significant that all the evidence at the trial was furnished by the ship-owners.

### NAZI ELECTION

The whole of Germany is one great ulcer of Nazi propaganda as the Elections of March 29th approach. The fascist propaganda bureau is belching forth threats against the Bolsheviks on a scale never seen before. A "Bolshevik" in Germany is anyone who fails to vote for Hitler. The ballots are to provide no place for an opposition vote. There will be the unopposed Nazi slate and a circle in which to "X" approval. Anyone casting a blank ballot is automatically branded an enemy of "the state" and subject to the whole range of persecutions which the Nazi press is industriously suggesting. Anyone who refrains from going to the polls, likewise brands himself a "Bolshevik."

### NEW YORK, March 26—Eight ships lying at piers 48, 58 and 60 were blockaded by mass pickets led by Joseph Curran, rank and file leader elected by the Joint Ship Strike Committee. Eight ships are involved, including the famous "mutiny" California. Curran was on the latter ship at the time of the San Pedro strike, which is history making in its arousing of the Eastern rank and files.

The Brown, Carlson and Grange leadership has declared the strike illegal. 1400 seamen have registered for picket duty.

### FISH CANNERY WORKERS' NEW TRIAL UP SOON

WILMINGTON, Calif., Mar. 23—Granted a re-trial on framed charges of "disturbing the peace," five women members of the Fish Cannery Workers Union, A. F. of L., will appear shortly in municipal court to have date for a re-hearing set, it was stated today by the Harbor branch of the International Labor Defense, in issuing a call for renewed protests to demand that the case be dismissed.

Protests should be sent to Benj. F. Scheinman, presiding judge of the municipal court, Los Angeles.

The five workers are Mrs. Jesus Cervantes, Mrs. Jesus Diaz, Concha Cantu, Juanita Caracozza, and Ruby Mendoza.

The five workers are out on \$250 bail each as they have been since their conviction.

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## 1,000 READY TO STRIKE APRIL 1

LOS ANGELES, Mar. 25—Unless demands for higher wages are met by the Southern California Growers Federation, 1000 agricultural workers of the Mexican Confederation of Unions will walk out on strike April 1st, was the ultimatum delivered to the growers here yesterday.

The union demands are 35 cents an hour for a 9-hour day, time and a half for overtime including Sunday and holidays, union recognition, and equal wages to women workers.

## DEATH PACTS

(Continued From Page 1)

demanded economic sanctions to enforce existing peace guarantees. England is unwilling to co-operate unless Italy agrees. Italy refused and declares Britain's fleet in the Mediterranean a threat of war.

The London Naval Parley, resulting in complete failure, the U.S.A. and Great Britain put their signatures to a document involving a great deal of language but no hampering restrictions. It simply implies that the two nations will maintain navies of equal strength and was signed in order that some kind of document should come out of the parley as a gesture to public opinion. The real outcome of the parley was to junk all previous agreements and leave the field clear for a totally unregulated naval race.

### Tom Mooney

The Tom Mooney committee recommended a great mass meeting for May 15th. This was concurred in.

Last week it was reported that the Tribune was willing to run a "Labor column" and after placing several safeguards around the proposition the council accepted

## Alameda Council

### STRIKE GAINS REPORTED; NO VOTE YET ON LUNDEEN BILL

OAKLAND, Calif., March 24—Last night a resolution was presented by the teachers Union endorsing the Frazier-Lundeen Bill. A number of delegates said that they had not had enough time to study the bill to pass upon it at that time. A motion was carried that one month from now the council will vote upon whether or not to endorse the bill. It was then ordered that the entire bill be published in the East Bay Labor Journal so that organized labor in general on the east side of the Bay will be able to study the bill in full.

It was reported that the window trimmers of the local stores are organizing a union.

### Fur Workers

Mr. Stein of the San Francisco local of the Fur Workers' Union stated that there are not enough fur workers in the East Bay to organize a local and asked the sanction of the council to organize these workers into the San Francisco local. The request was granted. He promised they will be organized 100% shortly.

The council voted a donation of \$25 to the Red Cross for relief work in the disastrous eastern floods.

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## SHIP SUBSIDY BILL PROMISES UNLIMITED PROFITS IS CHARGE

WASHINGTON, Mar. 25—The answer to President Roosevelt's request for a Merchant Marine "second to none" entered the Senate to-day in the form of a compromise ship subsidy bill. Immediately a strong bi-partisan bloc, headed by Senator Clark of Missouri, organized to "filibuster it to death."

Clark stated that the new bill contained "jokers" which would permit the President to grant unlimited profits and that it fails to provide adequate protection for American Seamen. "As the bill was reported to the Senate by the Commerce Committee," said Clark, "we might just as well come out for outright government operation of the Merchant Marine."

### HIGHLIGHTS

Highlights of the bill are:

1. Create a Maritime Authority of five members to administer subsidies and regulations. Provides for a differential in construction and operating costs between the United States and foreign countries.

### MOSCOW HEALTH IMPROVES

MOSCOW, Mar. 24—Cited as evidence of improved conditions of health in Moscow, the department of vital statistics reveals figures showing that in 1935 the death rate was decreased by 16.5 percent compared with 1934, while the birth rate increased 18 percent.

2. Construction subsidies may go as high as 40 percent of the difference between the cost in an American and a foreign yard; but a 5 percent figure may be had providing that permission is granted by the President.

3. Entire crews of subsidized freight ships must be Americanized and 90 percent on passenger ships.

4. Limits subsidized profits to 10 percent. Ship-builder must pay cash for 25 percent of estimated cost of construction. Six percent subsidy differential is allowed for ships built on the West Coast.

5. Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America.

6. Inter-professional Association.

7. Bill Distributors' Union.

8. International Longshoremen's Association.

9. Public Works and Unemployment Union, Locals 5, 6, and 9.

10. Philosophers' Club.

11. The International Labor defense.

12. The Communist Party.

Many groups not yet affiliated with the East Bay Conference for Repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism Act, have official observers participating.

13. SOVIET COTTON

MOSCOW, Mar. 20—By crossing Egyptian with Peruvian cotton the All-Union Cotton Institute at Tashkent, in Turkestan, has produced bolls double the weight and size of the choice but small Egyptian variety. Soviet cotton growing territory lies about the same latitude as San Francisco.

## We Must Double the Western Worker Circulation Before End of 1936!

### 2,000 NEW READERS BY JUNE IS IMMEDIATE GOAL OF DRIVE!

The Western worker becomes an eight-page paper on May 1st. With the increase in size will also be an improvement in the appearance and in the reading content.

This paper of yours is going to become a mass newspaper in California, Arizona, and Nevada. Its circulation is now showing an increase—but not enough. The circulation drive begins on April 1st and continues to the end of the year. And the slogan is DOUBLE THE CIRCULATION BEFORE 1937! TWO THOUSAND NEW READERS BY JUNE 1ST!

That means every literature agent who is now responsible for a bundle must get his section or unit on the job to double the number of papers it now handles. Subscriptions must be a major objective at all times. Those sections and units who lack Western Worker agents, or whose agents are not functioning properly must see that the situation is rectified.

### Surprising Figures

Let us examine our subscription records for the year 1935. DURING THE YEAR 2846 SUBSCRIPTIONS WERE OBTAINED—AND ONLY 700 OF THESE WERE

RENEWALS. WE GAINED 2146 NEW READERS, BUT LOST MANY OLD SUBSCRIBERS WHO WERE NOT CONTACTED PROPERLY FOR RENEWALS!

The previous years give us similar records, which means that over 10,000 workers in our District have been subscribers to the Western Worker in addition to those we now have.

One comrade has thoroughly demonstrated in San Francisco, that it is easy to get renewal subscriptions. For five or six months he has been visiting old subscribers and has sold renewals to them almost 100 percent.

If you know anything at all about the membership of the Communist Party in District 13, California, Arizona and Nevada, you can see by comparing the circulation figures that not all Party members are reading this paper.

We must immediately raise the slogan, "Every Communist a Reader of the Western Worker."

We must all help with the circulation—and how can you sell a paper when you don't take time to read it?

Add this to the figure discovered among our past subscribers, and we find that approximately 37,000 people have been readers of our paper. (At the same time it is not exaggerating to suggest that this figure could be doubled and trebled when we remember how many readers of this paper pass on their copies to friends and re-

latives.) Yet our total circulation is stagnant.

### Reason for It

The reason for all this is the absence of a functioning distribution and sales apparatus in our District. There is no doubt that a vast majority of these readers could have been retained if we had comrades attending to it.

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## Arizona Workers Seek Support In Fight On Packer

### EMPLOYERS IN REFUSAL TO SIGN UP WITH A.F. OF L UNION

YUMA, Arizona.—Members of the Fruit and Vegetable Workers' Union of Arizona have asked the State Federation of Labor to send out communications to central labor councils and state federations over the United States asking them to back the union in its battle against McDaniel and Sons of the Yuma district.

McDaniel refused to sign the union's working agreement after ten major operators of the valley had already approved it. It is stated that the shipper did not approve of the clause that required the employment of 90 per cent of his men through the union office.

The Teamsters' Union announced that arbitration proceedings growing out of the recent strike of the Tribune truck drivers had been finally concluded with a splendid victory for the Union. Among other gains their wages were increased from \$17 to \$33 per week and the same had been won for the Post-Enquirer truck drivers.

### Teamsters' Union

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# The Truth About the Riots in Spain

## A FIRST HAND ACCOUNT OF EVENTS IN SPAIN SINCE THE ELECTION VICTORY

**Reactionaries Creating Riots in Effort To Disrupt People's Government; United Front Forces Firm**

### INTRODUCTION

The following first-hand report written directly from Europe is the first eye-witness account of the tremendous events going on in Spain that we have received to date. It is far the most important article we have yet printed on the Spanish election victory.

By PIERRE VAN PAASSEN

Federated Press.

MADRID.—(F.P.)—The desperate efforts of Spanish fascism and reactionary absentee landlordism to stave off a little longer their inevitable doom explain the persistent stories of riots and disorder that come to American readers.

Again and again in recent weeks, fascist groups have attacked workers' halls or attempted to assassinate labor leaders. But the Spanish workers, their endurance surpassed by indignities to which they have been submitted these past two years, do not suffer in silence since the election victory. They strike back, and reactionary elements do their best to represent workers' self-defense as uncured rowdiness. More recently the People's Front has gained the outlawing of young Primo de Rivera's Fascist Falange, the latest white hope of Spanish reaction and the group responsible for many of the provocations.

### LAND TO THE PEOPLE

The demand of Spain's landless farmers for division of the great semi-feudal estates grows more insistent. More than 30,000 political prisoners are out of prison. Eleven thousand liberals, Socialists and left republicans who were ousted from their positions in 1934 have been reinstated as magistrates, judges, and district governors.

The united front has forced the government to begin a clean-up campaign in the army, especially in the officer corps. Thousands of officers with fascist sympathies and other anti-democratic elements are to be placed on the retired list. They will not go to prison or be shot as the workers of the Asturias were in 1934 when they rose to prevent the establishment of the semi-fascist dictatorship of Gil Robles and the landed proprietors. The working class in the hour of victory is always more generous, more humane than the reaction. Perhaps too generous!

### SUPPRESSED TRUTH

At last the truth about the 1934 revolt is coming out. At that time Gil Robles and the renegade Llerona did not hesitate to turn the Spanish Foreign Legion loose upon the miners and the peasants. This military outfit, chiefly composed of criminal elements from all over Europe and officered by white Russian emigres, was brought over from Africa because the government dared not employ native Spanish troops against the starving population.

The Foreign Legion behaved as if it was on conquered territory. In one village the entire population of women and children was driven into the church and the building set on fire, while the men were holding the pits against the attacks of government troops. The outside world was informed by the Madrid censorship that the miners were plundering and firing churches. Photographs now published in the free Spanish press show foreign legionnaires carrying the severed heads of Asturian miners attached to their belts and the corpses of children laying in the streets. Aristocrats, landed proprietors and fascist shock troops are fleeing in their thousands across the border into France.

### WORKERS STEADY

They fear the revenge of the people. But the people remain calm—I asked Largo Caballero, Socialist and trade union leader, to what he attributed the phenomenal success of the People's Front at the recent elections in a country which is predominantly agricultural.

Caballero replied: When Portela Valladares, leader of the late reactionary government, refused to confiscate and subdivide among the peasants the big aristocratic estates and the vast lands belonging to the church, and when he said: 'The peasants have to be satisfied with eating grass,' these millions of hungry, destitute and



## Mooney and the Red Squad

### VIGILANTE RAIDS WITHIN THE PENITENTIARY

#### INTRODUCTION

This is the seventh of a series of articles written exclusively for the WESTERN WORKER by a man just released from San Quentin penitentiary. Each article is complete in itself. The events covered all took place very recently within the prison walls. Many readers have heard snatches of these occurrences before or have read faint suggestions of them in the daily press. This is the first inside story of them that has ever been published.

Jim McNamara



His cell was looted.

"I guess you know whose cell this is?" he asked the Red Squad. "Dam right we do," they said. It's Mooney's cell."

"You know that Mooney gets all his books and papers straight from the Warden, I guess. Besides, Mooney drags quite a bit of weight outside. Better go easy when you shake down his cell. You might get into trouble bothering a guy like Mooney."

The Red Squad had finished raiding McNamara's cell. They decided to pay Mooney's cell a visit. There are guards in the prison who really think Mooney got a raw deal and—should be freed. One of them happened along when the Red Squad started along the tier to Mooney's cell.

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"We know what we're doing," the Red Squad said. "We got our orders, and we're going to carry them out."

"That's okay with me, then," the guard said, leaving.

#### EVERYTHING TAKEN

Where they had been ruthless in destroying everything in the cell of McNamara, they went at their work in Mooney's cell a trifle more carefully. Those of us who have studied the Mooney case and know of its far-reaching consequences can hardly conceive of the mass of documents Mooney keeps in his cell. The Red Squad took it all, everything! There were clippings and evidence on the Mooney case which were priceless, papers and data which proved Mooney's contention of a frame-up conclusively. The Red Squad mixed the whole business together, obtained four cardboard boxes, dumped the whole works in and carted it away.

Then the Red Squad got cold feet. Instead of "losing" Mooney's things as they had done with books, papers, etc., taken from McNamara's cell, they took the entire collection to a guard post nearby and left it. They feared to take it back to the cell and they did not care to mix it up with the results of the other

KURE ISLAND

On February 20, 1936 the U. S. Navy took over control of Kure Island in the Pacific, formerly under civil control of the Hawaiian Territory. This spot is strategically situated for a cable station.

#### WPA STRIKE

ST. LOUIS, Mar. 22.—As 2500 union workers on WPA projects were called out on strike by the local Building Trades Council, the walkout threatened to spread throughout Missouri, where there is much dissatisfaction over low "security" wages of \$55.00 per month.

#### KURE ISLAND

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## POSITION OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF MEXICO ON THE PEOPLE'S UNITED FRONT AND CARDENAS; AN INTERVIEW WITH THE SECRETARY OF THE C. P.

By MURRAY

MEXICO CITY, March 25.—Sixteenth of September is one of the busiest streets in Mexico City, in the heart of the hotel and shopping district. If you stand in the entrance of the Olympic Theater and look upward to the third story balcony of Number 18 on the opposite side of the street, you will see a huge white banner, with letters in red, reading: "PARTIDO COMUNISTA DE MEXICO."



This is the headquarters of the Communist Party of Mexico. Raided on the night of February 5 by the fascist "Gold Shirts," it shows little sign of damage now. The offices of the Communist Party of Mexico are as plainly equipped as any workers' headquarters in the United States—a few benches, tables, and on the walls, paintings of Marx and Lenin.

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At one of the tables, talking with a group of workers, sits a gray-haired man with a high forehead and a pair of keen, dark eyes. A friendly smile of recognition, then he is deep again in concentration upon the discussion. This is Herman Laborde, general secretary of the Communist Party of Mexico. This is the man I've come to interview regarding the great United Front Confederation of Mexican Workers.

INTERVIEW

Murray: What are your impressions of the great Mexican Labor Congress of Unification?

Laborde: The Trade Union Unity Congress is the most important event in the history of the Mexican proletariat because of the important period in which it was called, because of the number of workers (500,000) which the Confederation succeeded in uniting, and because this new United Front is founded upon a platform of struggle, in the midst of important actions of the working class, and with a relatively high level of class consciousness.

Murray: What was the Communist Party's role in calling the Congress?

Laborde: The C. P. of Mexico was the initiator of the fight for unity, having made many attempts to achieve this since the foundation, in 1929, of the Confederation Sindical Unitaria (Confederation of Red Trade Unions). In March, 1933, the Party sent out a call for a united front of all working class groups and participated actively in the United Front Conference realized in April of that year. At this conference, sabotaged by almost all labor groups of that period, was set up a Committee for Workers and Peasants Unity, very narrow and weak, but which nevertheless served for a time as the leading force in the fight for trade unity, and which succeeded in creating several local and regional united front movements.

NATIONAL UNITY MEET

Thanks to this activity, there were begun in 1935 discussions toward the united front on the initiative of the Alliance of Graphic Arts, to a large extent influenced by the Communists. These were broken up by the splitting maneuvers of several leaders of important labor centrals. Later, on the initiative of the Communist leaders in the Red Trade Unions, the Union of Electrical Workers called a meeting of all labor groups to discuss the position they must take in the face of the declarations of General Calles against the strike movement. At this meeting the Committee for Proletarian Defense was founded with the purpose of uniting all labor to repel reactionary attacks upon the proletariat—and the calling of a National Congress of Unification.

Murray: What is your opinion of the new Confederation as a force for labor unity, against imperialism and as a revolutionary force?

Laborde: The new Confederation already has united the great majority of the organized workers of Mexico. The only labor groups who have not joined it are the CROM (Confederation of Revolutionary Workers of Mexico, organized and dominated by Calles for political purposes) and the CGT (General Confederation of Workers, also a reactionary-controlled organization) and other groups of lesser importance with a total in membership of no more than 50,000. These groups can be drawn in and complete unity achieved, providing correct united front tactics are applied.

INTERNATIONAL OUTFIT

His passing will not be regretted. He had made several mistakes in his life, but as he was a member of the International Police Force, they overlooked many of his errors. Wasn't he the "big-brave" Marshall who had killed the crazed Hindu in a crowded courtroom? Very well then, as long as he gives orders to watch the Reds he will be honored.

The International Police Force is a body of high police officials whose duty it is to watch and suppress all Red activities. They are scattered all over the world, in the pay of donations from the leading capitalists of the world and their business is to stop the spread of Communism. Many of the members of this body are of course, former officers in the Russian Army of the Tsar. Some of them were officers in the White Army of intervention that tried to whip the Bolsheviks. But the Bolsheviks whipped them on every front of the Soviet Union and they still think they will someday regain Russia. Some people have phoney ideas.

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San Francisco, California

Workers participate in the people's movement against imperialism. The new Confederation was represented at the Congress of the People's Anti-Imperialist Front, which with its 500,000 members raised to more than a million the number of persons represented in the People's Front Congress.

### FUNCTIONS

Murray: How will such a Confederation function in situations like the Monterrey strikes?

Laborde: The Confederation must fight for united action of all workers, including those of the White Unions (company unions). At the same time the Confederation must try to bring about an alliance between the proletariat and the small bourgeoisie to prevent the reactionary owner-clique from organizing, moving and putting these above-mentioned groups against the proletariat.

Murray: What effect will the new Confederation have upon the Mexican workers in the United States?

Laborde: It should contribute powerfully to the organization and unification of the Mexican workers there. Concrete forms of cooperation must be achieved with revolutionary organizations in the United States and with workers' organizations in general—but particularly with the organizations of Mexican workers.

### NEED OUR HELP

Murray: What is your view regarding the revolutionary movement here and its relation to the revolutionary movement in the United States?

Laborde: The revolutionary movement in Mexico is passing through a very touchy period. The development of the Mexican People's Front, aided by the participation of the new Confederation, can raise this movement to such a high level that Mexico will be the standard-bearer in the development of national, liberating revolutions among all the Latin-American peoples.

But it is very necessary that the workers of the United States and particularly the Communist Party of the United States, give effective aid to the movement in Mexico, mobilizing the people of North America against the imperialistic companies, against the Hearst Press and the Knights of Columbus who seek intervention in support of Calles and the clergy. It is necessary to organize the widest possible support of the American people for the Mexican People's Front and the government of President Cárdenas.

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This is important in relation also to the Pan-American Conference called by Roosevelt at which, we suspect, an attempt will be made to enroll the Latin-American countries, Mexico included, in an economic and commercial alliance for the purpose of strengthening the economic domination and political influence of the United States in Latin-America.

### JAPANESE AVIATORS

"Germany is training Japanese military aviators. In December, 1935, 26 German aircraft specialists went to Japan via Italy. Japanese delegates to the Naval Conference spent 2 days with Goering en route to London," Nation, 3-11-36.

Special May Day Excursion TO THE Soviet Union

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## Party Life

DISTRICT ORGANIZATIONAL DEPARTMENT

Control Tasks adopted by San Francisco Section Convention, to be achieved by May, 1936.

1. The proposal of the Section Convention that San Francisco strive for a dues paying membership of 750 by May has been accepted by the Section Committee. In February, dues payments averaged only 428. The dues payments for the first two weeks in March have gone up to 552. Every unit must have 100 per cent dues paying membership if we are to achieve this control task.

The sub-section membership committees must meet regularly, and the full sub-section membership must co-operate by bringing every contact before them. In this way, we will easily recruit 185 new members and draw back into the Party 65 old members. Each unit must make up a list of all contacts and all former members at once. Fractions within the unions and mass organizations must systematize their work in recruiting. The Section Committee has pledged itself to recruit 55 of the total new members.

## WESTERN WORKER AND BASIC PARTY LITERATURE:

To increase the present bundle order of Western Workers from 675 to 1000, each sub-section committee must elect a responsible Western Worker agent to check on subs and routes, regular check-up to be made once a month at sub-section committee meetings; to elect a functioning San Francisco section Western Worker agent.

To increase the sales of The Communist from 125 to 250, and the sale of the PARTY ORGANIZER from 225 to 400.

To obtain 180 Western Worker subs.

## TRADE UNION WORK:

The 60 Party members who can join the A. F. of L. must do so.

## SHOP UNITS:

To establish three functioning shop units; one factory in the N industry; one in the G industry, and one in the U industry. To establish three functioning ship units.

## NEGRO WORK:

To set up a functioning commission for work among Negroes with a responsible leader. This work to be taken up by the Fillmore and Marina sub-sections, and a responsible comrade assigned to this particular work.

AGITPROP WORK:

To set up a functioning Agitprop commission of five, three of whom shall be the agit-prop director; director of the Workers' School and the section literature agent.

## YOUTH WORK:

To popularize the decisions of the YCL Congress through the pamphlet by Gil Green. To set up a youth group in the needle trades, composed of young comrades who are members of the union. Needles trade fraction to be responsible for this task.

To help the young Communist League contact youth through a questionnaire to be filled out by youth contacts who shall be visited by the YCL.

## ELECTIONS:

For concentration on the elections, to begin in the 23rd Assembly district (Mission) with the organization of an assembly district sub-section apparatus that will be responsible to the section committee. Reorganization in the other assembly districts shall be guided by our experience in the concentration district.

## WORK AMONG THE MINORITIES:

The incoming section committee shall set up a functioning language department with a responsible head. Concentration will be on the Italian, Spanish, Chinese, Filipino and Japanese people.

## FIGHT OVERTIME

ALLENTHON, Pa., March 23.—Any attempt to enforce an edict of the state WPA administrator that Pennsylvania relief workers must put in overtime to make up time lost because of weather conditions will be answered by a strike, a mass meeting of 2000 WPA workers here unanimously voted.

Resolutions were adopted for a 30-hour week, inclusion of travel time in working time; regular paydays; distribution of surplus commodities to WPA workers; transportation by inspected busses instead of open trucks; \$94-a-month security wage instead of the present \$60.50; two weeks notice of discontinuance of any project and automatic reinstatement of laid-off WPA workers onto relief.

## Terror, Misrule in Brazil by Vargas, Wall Street Yes-Man

## PEOPLE OF U. S. ARE DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE TO SAVE HERO OF NOVEMBER UPRISING

The hand of Wall Street, already dripping with the blood of scores and thousands of heroic rebels, has clutched Luiz Carlos Prestes, national hero of the struggling Brazilian people, leader of the national anti-imperialistic movement of Brazil which is waging the struggle for the independence of the Brazilian people and for democratic liberty.

Prestes, a Communist, has been the hero of the Brazilian people ever since that time from 1922 to 1926, when, with iron determination and supreme courage, he led the struggle of the people against the rule of Wall Street and its agents.

FOR INDEPENDENCE

Getulio Vargas, head of the reactionary Brazilian government and himself an abject—though well-paid—slave of Wall Street, has endeavored to brand the November, 1935 uprising as "Communist led," through "agents of Moscow." Prestes, as a leading Communist, has been singled out for particular attention.

But the truth of the matter is the November uprising was led by the National Liberation League which was founded in 1935 and which always has stood forth as willing to fight for the genuine independence of Brazil. Many of those elements which, in 1930, supported the bloc of the Liberal Alliance of Vargas have since become disgusted with the open treachery of their leader who now occupies the presidential chair. These elements enthusiastically joined the National Liberation League.

The Communist Party supports and aids the National Liberation League. It supported the League in the November uprising. Prestes, as a national hero, was appointed honorary chairman of the League.

## PROTEST

Send protest telegrams to the Vargas government, copies to Senator Abel Charmon, Brazilian Senate, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Organize broad committees for the defense of the Brazilian people. Vigilantes at your Golden Gate; Come, comrades, it's not too late. We'll reclaim you for our own. Return to you your golden crown. Out of their filthy jails we'll make Palaces for your beauty's sake. And round them, still shall hover the spirit of labor's emancipator

Senate, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Organize broad committees for the defense of the Brazilian people. Vigilantes at your Golden Gate; Come, comrades, it's not too late. We'll reclaim you for our own. Return to you your golden crown. Out of their filthy jails we'll make Palaces for your beauty's sake. And round them, still shall hover the spirit of labor's emancipator

PEOPLE'S FRONT

The National Liberation League is in reality a powerful People's Front, supported by millions of starving and exploited Brazilian peasants and workers. This People's Front has issued a manifesto in which it declares that the League exists only to continue the struggle of the Brazilian people for independence and for democracy.

The tactics of Vargas in suppressing the November uprising are typical. Something like 17,000 persons were thrown in jail. Explosions were engineered and the government issued a report that "an entire arsenal of the Red Army, including arms belonging to the Workers' and Peasants' Army of the U.S.S.R., with Czech inscriptions," had been discovered amid the wreckage. Vargas issued blood-curdling stories of the "atrocities" committed by the rebels of Natal, Recife and Rio. Vargas engineered the murder of officers of his own army—formerly known as secret police agents—and laid their murder at the door of the Communist Party.

## BARRON MURDERED

Vargas caused the arrest, torture and ultimate murder of an American youth, Victor Barron, son of Harrison George, and through the reactionary press associations announced he had committed suicide. Barron, it was said, dived from a window after he had "revealed" the hiding place of Prestes. But Prestes had been arrested and jailed days before Barron had been taken into custody. When this was discovered, the Brazilian police changed their story. "Barron," they now declare, "was insane when he committed suicide."

## EWART TORTURED

The ex-Reichstag Deputy, Arthur Ewart, along with his wife, has been imprisoned, tortured and threatened with deportation to Nazi Germany, where instant death awaits him. Abel Charmon, senator, speaking recently in the Senate of his country declared: "This latter (Ewart) . . . suffers so much torture and so brutal beatings, that, in spite of his rugged physique, his ribs have been fractured by his tortures in the headquarters of the police and he has had to be treated in the hospital . . ."

A more cynical, cruel system of task making is hardly imaginable, and if any one of these men fall down in these tasks or kick on conditions he is promptly fired.

W. C.

## STUDY FAR NORTH

During 1936 more than four hundred members of 33 scientific expeditions will set out on three icebreakers to the Soviet North to look for coal, iron, gold, and rare metals, to investigate seal fishing and reindeer hunting and to make astronomical and geodetic observations. Geological scientists alone number 150. The groups will be landed at different points and pursue their specific tasks on a well organized schedule.

Good Material Used Right

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## WORKERS' OPEN FORUM

## FROM A HOUSEWIFE

Richmond, Calif.

To make even more beautiful these places; Rest homes for unfortunates of all races.

Though some of us are still in the mist We'll up with our arm and clenched our fist, And follow our leaders into the sun,

To see our fight right well begun. And never again shall Willie Hearst.

Defile you with his fascist thirst.

Chances are few, but I never miss a chance to put in a good word and I always put my papers and pamphlets in some good spot to be read by others when I'm through.

Well, anyhow, here is a poem, if it could be called one, and at least it may give you a laugh if not worth more. Maybe you'll think I don't know "beans." Well, I should—I've taken a lot of them the last few years.

Best wishes to the success of the Western Worker and the Communist Party. M. J.

## ODE TO CALIFORNIA

PARIS, Mar. 16.—River boatmen on the waterways near Paris are out on strike. They demand application of conditions of the Emergency Decree of November, 1919, which regulates shipping conditions in the river

shipping industry and provides for an 8-hour working day. River boatmen have been working as many as 18 hours per day, at a starvation wage.

It reaps its harvest often, To the frequent show'r of lead; Snacking to the cannon roar— Shouting o'er the dead.

—Miera.

LOS ANGELES, March 20.—

In preparation for a gigantic May Day celebration, the Downtown Sub-section of the Communist Party will hold street meetings every Sunday at 2 p. m., March 29th through April 26th, at the Plaza.

Units, sub-sections and sections of the Communist Party in District 13 should immediately call in all collection lists and other material of the Western Worker Financial Drive and remit all funds to the Western Worker Drive Committee, 121 Haight Street, San Francisco, California.

THIS OFFER GOOD ONLY UNTIL MAY 1st, 1936

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## If One Good Poem Deserves Another Then Here It Is

UNION OFFICER HAS MILITANT WORKER JAILED

CABRANO OF SAN MATEO CARPENTERS CALLS POLICE

## Books and Pamphlets . . .

What about the American middle classes? What are their problems? Are they the predominant class in America as some would-be Marxist "specialists" would have us believe?

Lewis Corey has written a book about them. (The Crisis of the Middle Class; Covici Friede, New York, \$2.50) in which he shows, with clear logic and abundant statistics, that the American middle class is not the predominant class.

There are approximately 28,000,000 wage workers in the United States. The urban middle class, including clerical workers, numbers 12,500,000 or 25 per cent of all those gainfully employed.

Most middle class people do not own enough property to derive any substantial income from it. They depend on employment for a living.

They are not in a position to fight their battles alone. They must choose between labor and Wall Street and if they choose the latter they will find themselves headed toward fascism. Under fascism they will be impoverished at a more rapid rate than at present.

"Historically," says Corey, "the middle class was a revolutionary class, struggling against feudalism to establish the rights of small property."

**WOMEN, WAR AND FASCISM** by Dorothy McConnell (5 cents—18 pp.)

During the last three years, the campaign against women has developed into a worldwide movement including the United States. "It has become a cool, steady, ruthless drive which is even more drastic than any drive against racial minorities." Dorothy McConnell in her pamphlet **WOMEN, WAR AND FASCISM** makes it abundantly clear that if women are to successfully oppose war and fascism and thus safeguard their security and freedom, they must organize. Had it not been for organized protest of Belgian women in 1934, their employment in factories and offices would have been severely curtailed and they would have been excluded from all posts in public departments.

Women are essential to the development of a fascist state because they provide cheap labor and a high birth-rate. They are essential to a successful war, because they run munition plants, factories, business offices and

**Effective organization of unemployed will aid in maintaining union scales of pay. Demand that your union officials support such work.**

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## California's Sun Kissed Hoodlums

## A Story of the Whys and Wherefores of Vigilante Activity - -

By Ronald R. Cooley

## WHAT HAS GONE BEFORE

With union halls and workers' homes wrecked, with Vigilantes smashing at the picket lines of the mill strikers in this unnamed California city, the bosses are riding high. Sockie Boyd and Jim Halver, Communists and officials of the mill workers' union, together with scores of other militants, are hunted like rats. Nevertheless they have led a drive to bring out the other union locals in a sympathetic general strike to end the Vigilanteism. Many of the unions have voted to go out.

Now go on with the story.

CHAPTER IV.  
WHO'S OUT OF ORDER?

The Teamsters' Union met in special session to consider the situation. Though it hadn't been announced beforehand, every man knew they were to decide whether or not their local would join a general strike in support of the hard pressed mill workers.

The president walked onto the platform and pounded for silence. The gossipy teamsters in the front row fell silent, stepped on their smokes and began to holler "pipe down." Patiently the president banged again and the second row gave over its conversation and joined the outcry for silence. Again he thumped with his gavel: "The meeting will come to order," he shouted hopefully, and the third and fourth rows began hissing in loud and resonant "shushes!" Presently the chair had them all crying for order and silence and so the meeting opened. By the time the minutes had been read the last row had given over its crap game and had given up their activity in this city.

There was a moment of silence, broken only by the sound of scores of union men catching their breath. Then came a shower of seconds to the motion.

Mike Racye, twenty years president of the union, banged with his gavel. "You're crazy!" he declared. "One union can't make a DATE for it, so the Labor Council can't stall you!"

They cheered him to a fare-well.

Big Bert Bulow, twenty years a member of the Teamsters, took the floor: "I move that this union go out on strike, on all jobs, a week from next Monday; and that we stay out until the Vigilantes have completely ceased their activity in this city."

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# EDITORIALS

## SEAMEN, ATTENTION! No Strikes Permitted In Fascist Countries

News from Italy reports that the fascist no-strike law was invoked against the striking crew of the American liner "S. S. President Garfield." (See story on page one.)

Here is striking confirmation of our indictment of fascist countries for their suppression of workers' rights. All the more reason for maritime and shore-side unions making it their business to rally forces to combat fascism here and conduct a vigorous anti-fascist anti-vigilante campaign in general.

Although it is true that American workers as yet have the legal right to strike, fascism creeps in a bolder fashion than ever before.

Evidence for this is seen in shipowners and industrialists conspiring with State officials and stool-pigeons to smash the unions and frame working class leaders. Also, the arming of "industrial guards" and the hoarding of secret caches of deadly bombs and lethal weapons for use against strikers points to a vigorous all-round offensive against living standards and union solidarity.

In this regard, Senator La Follette's committee for preliminary investigation of violations of civil liberties by employer groups should receive the widest encouragement. We have no hesitation in declaring that investigation of California groups alone would provide sensational material as to the underhanded, unscrupulous and ruthless plans of profit-hungry employers to utilize governmental agencies as well as professional strike-breakers and frame-up artists to weaken the entire labor movement.

Not only does this prove the necessity for setting up active trade union anti-vigilante committees of action, but also demands that all workers turn their attention to the political field and rally behind the Farmer-Labor Party movement to wrest political control away from the old corrupt capitalist parties and place popular power in the hands of the people.

Italy and Germany are horrible examples, holding up a mirror to the American workers.

Fight for the right to strike—the right to live!

## Young Man, If You Cannot Find A Paying Job, Work FOR NOTHING

The chairman of the national defense committee of the California Daughters of the American Revolution on behalf of the recent State convention, has demanded that national headquarters fight for the following program:

Severance of relations with the Soviet Union.

Outlawing of the Communist Party.

Universal fingerprinting.

Stringent deportation laws.

Defeat of the American Youth Act.

Creation of an American diplomatic school for training young Americans.

This needs no comment from us, as it obviously represents merely a part of the general fascist program such as is vigorously propagated by Hearstites. But the comment that accompanied criticism of the American Youth Act is priceless: the Act would "subsidize unemployed youths with Federal funds and make them exempt from labor on military projects or capitalistic industrial projects."

### HOW TERRIBLE

Note the echo of this, even more plainly expressed, in the editorial column of Hearst's San Francisco "Call Bulletin":

"That is the position of modern youth; if it cannot make a living in the city, let it try to do so in the country."

"If it can't get what it thinks it ought to be paid let it work, willingly, for less."

"And if it can't get that 'less,' it should be willing to work and learn FOR NOTHING."

Nothing remains to be said. Go to the devil, young man.

What price fascism, Daughters of no more American Revolutionaries?

## Make May Day a Unity Day For the Farmer-Labor Party

May Day approaches once more. This international day of the workers promises to produce the mightiest parade and celebration of united front movements against poverty, war and fascism ever experienced. The workers everywhere will take over the streets and demonstrate their

mighty power, challenging capitalism and its miseries.

May Day is as genuinely an American tradition as any national holiday. It is America's great traditional contribution to the celebration of the international workers. It began in 1886 when Chicago police murdered workers who were striking for the eight-hour day. It is also associated with the Haymarket martyrs who were hung after being convicted on a false charge of bombing—the first great legal lynching such as threatens the Scottsboro Boys; and similar to that which keeps Tom Mooney incarcerated. A speaker at their funeral declared:

"For the love of truth they died. They fought for a cause believing themselves in the right, and in the years to come they will be loved and revered."

May Day this year is to be an occasion for more than deep felt reverence; it is a day for triumphant rallying of all liberal and progressive forces in squares and parks, and at public mass meetings, cementing the united front that will fight back reaction and preserve our liberties in spite of the Heart-Liberty League fascist threats.

**Begin to popularize May Day through the literature on sale in the peoples' bookshops. Drive for unity of action such as has already brought unity between trade unions, Socialists and Communists in many parts of the country. Build sentiment for the Farmer-Labor Party, the forces for which will make huge forward strides in the May Day demonstration.**

Let May Day be the occasion for not only celebrating the victory of the workers in the Socialist Soviet Union and the victories of the People's Front movements in Spain and France, but the achievement of unity of all progressive forces behind the Farmer-Labor Party in California!

## Storm Troopers Are Ready To Enforce Nazi 'Democracy'

Nazi Storm Troopers have received orders to don their uniforms and "be prepared" for the "election" due on March 29th.

Ready—to terrorize people into voting in support of Hitler's audacious denial of democratic rights.

Ready—to beat and jail those who insist on the use of the election to arouse support for the people's front against war and fascism.

Ready—to murder Hitler's most feared opponents, the Communists and Revolutionary Socialists.

Popular will is to be consulted, bludgeon in hand! The results will naturally be "overwhelmingly in favor" of Hitler's war provocations and rule by terror. This is presumed to allay the fears of foreign financiers whose loans are needed to stave off the approaching crisis in Germany.

At the same time, the elections of factory representatives, usually held in the factories under Nazi supervision, have been postponed for a year, according to an obscure news item. Last year these elections went strongly against Hitler's fraudulent "Labor Front" in spite of coercion and terror. And this year the united front and free trade union sentiment is still stronger. These elections would completely expose the fraud of the national "plebiscite" were they permitted free expression; hence their suppression.

It is not so easy to rig elections in the factories these days. The organized strength of the workers, patiently being built up in the factories by courageous anti-fascists, is just beginning to break through the terror, before long it will come out openly in the streets and neighborhoods.

Here is evidence that in the factories is to be found the source of power—working class power—that provides the solid core of strength that ultimately rallies weaker elements to a common struggle. It is the basis for Soviets, broad, democratic organs for struggle and for the administration of revolutionary needs, that will ultimately be called into existence when parliamentary democracy—the sort of "democracy" that Hitler easily controls—fails to meet the needs of an aroused, organized, disciplined people who know exactly where they are going. Such forms are developing in Spain at the present moment, fighting to release those forces of revolutionary change long held back by reaction that takes the form of open fascist terror.

Hitler has suppressed the real elections. No one in the slightest degree acquainted with the facts will be fooled by his thin pretense of "democracy." The workers will forge their own democratic forms, including in them masses of allies from the farmers and the city middle classes, and sweep fascism aside in the same series of acts with which they abolish capitalism.

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## What The Well Dressed Murderer Will Wear



A large part of humanity was outraged when Darwin suggested that human beings evolved from monkeys. Far better cause for indignation is the growing tendency of mankind to develop into beasts of bloodshed and destruction as pictured above.

The diseased hulk of capitalism in its dying fevers is prepared to breathe poison gas. The Japanese soldier above may think that his mask will afford him some security. But no mask can defend against the gasses invented since the last war. The only defense is for the populations of nations to organize and prevent the capitalist powers from releasing the destructive fumes.

## Can Victims of Black Scare Afford to Raise Red Scare?

### RANDOLPH'S REPLY TO ATTACKS ON NEGRO MEET

In a brilliant statement printed in the Feb. 29 issue of the Chicago Defender, a leading Negro newspaper, A. Phillip Randolph, unanimously re-elected president of the National Negro Congress, makes a passionate defense of the Congress against red baiting attacks.

Randolph, a prominent Socialist and one of the foremost labor leaders of the country, is president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor. He favors the United Front and a Farmer-Labor Party.

His statement which is a stirring appeal for support of the Congress follows in part:

#### STATEMENT

"And what about the rise of the Republican Party? It was born in the fires of persecution. Its leaders were scorned as 'nigger lovers.' It was the third party that the Congress and secretary, is not a Communist. Marion Cuthbert, treasurer, is not a Communist. These are the chief national officers. But while I am not a Communist, I am willing to go down fighting for the rights of any Negro to exercise his Constitutional right as a free man, to join the Communist Party or any other party he may choose to join, for to deny him this right is to reduce him to a slave."

"The National Negro Congress was epoch-making. It was composed of groups of serious-minded Negroes and their white sympathetic allies, who represented millions of Negro people everywhere. They represented the great masses of Negroes sorely beset by poverty and misery with no other hope except meager relief and that grudgingly doled out. They face evictions from day to day and the police club if they protest, also the jail, sickness and eventual death. This is their helpless lot."

#### A WAY OUT

"Our downtrodden group is looking for a way out and they came together from all parts of the country to talk about it and act. Verily these are serious times and this is serious business. This large group of Negroes deserves the reverence and support and not the ridicule and opposition of Negroes of high degree. Make no mistake! Negroes are massing together with their white working brothers and they are taking the march, and if I know them as I think I do, they are in no mood to be taunted with meaningless labels by those white or black who fail to sense the deepening and swelling tide of discontent and the gathering wrath of the people abroad in the world."

**A LEGAL PARTY**

"Since when can Negroes, the victims of the black scare by the Ku Klux Klan and Negro-phobists, North and South, afford to raise the red scare bogey in these United States? Negroes who elect to be Communists need make no apology for it. That is their right. It is guaranteed by the Federal Constitution. Communists are not criminals. The Communist Party is a legitimate political party and has city, state and national tickets like Republicans and Democrats.

"Nor should Negroes who are sincerely fighting for race rights become alarmed when they are condemned as 'reds' even if some well-meaning, but misguided, innocent Negro leaders of men of the cloth do so, or if they are denounced by the American Liberty League or by the famous Negro hater and the hater of all peoples of color, William Randolph Hearst.

**MINORITY GROUPS**

"It's gotten to be a regular indoor sport now to damn most movements and individuals who resolutely and aggressively fight for human and race rights of the workers and minority groups by branding them as 'red.'

"Negro preachers should not forget that Jesus Christ was nailed to the cross because the Pharise

which he had been nailed by three of four unknown men. A heavy coat had been thrown over his head to prevent his cries being heard.

Timmerman, who local cops said had been involved in "labor troubles" on the federal government's new trans-Florida ship canal, was returning to Camp Roosevelt in search of new work. He managed to tell police that an armed stranger halted him on the road and forced him at pistol point into the woods. There three or four other men threw a coat over his head, choked him and completed the crucifixion.

One of them, he recalled, shouted: "This ought to teach you to keep your trap shut. You should have stayed out of Florida."

## Seeing Red

By Michael Quin

OLD MAN GANDER isn't finished. I'll give you more installments of it later. And when that is finished we'll have BISHOP QUIN'S HYMN BOOK. But this issue is going to be a breathing spell because we have a lot of correspondence to clean up.

Not long ago I quoted some famous rhymes of writers living and dead and asked you to send in your favorites so we could make a collection. Since then we've been experiencing a veritable Johnstown flood of poetry.

D. J. sends in the famous reply Ambrose Bierce made to snobbish critics. Bierce was a San Francisco writer who styled himself a cynic. He was far from class conscious but developed a profound hatred for the bourgeoisie and made a career for himself out of walking over their corns. His art was to figure out what would displease the bourgeoisie the most and then contrive to say it. He succeeded so well that all the snob critics in England and America took up cudgels against him. To this, Bierce replied:

"Lo! How my fame rings out in every zone,

"A thousand critics shouting 'He's unknown!'

D. J., in his letter, believes that the enmity of fools has always served to build the prestige of better men. And he sees some comparison between the critics of Bierce and the Hearstian critics of Communism.

Ella Winter sent in these two as her favorites:

"Peace on earth" was said. We sing it.

And pay a million priests to bring it.

After two thousand years of mass,

We've got as far as poison gas.

—THOMAS HARDY

"God save England! God save the King!"

God heard the embattled nations sing and shout,

"God this, God that and God the other thing."

"Good God!" said God. "I've got my work cut out."

G. K. CHESTERTON

Reverend Robert Whitaker doesn't quote, but writes his own rhymes and sends them in. He encloses a letter in which he tells me the rhyme about golf links and children, which I printed as anonymous, is by Sarah Cleghorn. Whitaker vigorously flays poets who write fancy intellectual vagaries and urges return to clear, direct rhymes which say what they have to say plainly.

His letter is long and interesting and I will quote one part:

"It is nearly 30 years now since Henry George opened to me the way of economic interest, which led me to read on far beyond him and to become a Socialist, and my wife, who was but a young girl then, years before I married her, has been a radical for over forty years. We were both ready for Communism when the Russian Revolution opened our eyes to realism of strategy which had been slowly dawning upon us through our study of the L.W.W. movement and contact with it."

At the close of Comrade Kelas' farewell he said, "The Communist Party will now pay its respects to the deceased."

Two little Pioneers then stepped into the aisle carrying a red banner on which was inscribed a Hammer and Sickle. They carried it to the side of the bier where a member of the Los Angeles Section Committee draped it over the coffin. They then saluted and spoke these few, but powerful words, "Our Comrade!"

Mary Paulukonis, widow of the deceased Comrade, extends her gratitude to all who have assisted and comforted during a trying time.

## RED FUNERAL Hawthorne, Cal., Comrade Gone

HAWTHORNE, Calif.—The funeral of Comrade Joseph Paulukonis, of 121 Hawthorne Boulevard, was held at 3:30 p. m. Friday, March 20.

Comrade William Kellas gave a brief address, summarizing the life and activities of the dead comrade. A Lithuanian Comrade spoke in the native Lithuanian tongue.

Joseph Paulukonis was born 56 years ago in Lithuania. He knew the oppression of Czarist Russia. In 1903 he came to America. He became a citizen of this country, twenty-three years ago and remained here until his death.

At the close of Comrade Kelas' farewell he said, "The Communist Party will now pay its respects to the deceased."

Two little Pioneers then stepped into the aisle carrying a red banner on which was inscribed a Hammer and Sickle. They carried it to the side of the bier where a member of the Los Angeles Section Committee draped it over the coffin. They then saluted and spoke these few, but powerful words, "Our Comrade!"

Mary Paulukonis, widow of the deceased Comrade, extends her gratitude to all who have assisted and comforted during a trying time.

## Marcantonio Bill For Jobless Will Get Hearing Soon

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 23.—Public hearings on the Marcantonio Work Relief Standards Bill to create a \$6,000,000,000 fund for adequate relief to those now jobless will open in a few weeks.

Representative Marcantonio (Rep., N. Y.) made this announcement at a time when it is becoming increasingly apparent the Roosevelt administration is planning even deeper slashes in relief appropriations for the next